



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/018,064	10/30/2001	Andreas Arlt	IN-12097	5772

7590 09/05/2003

Basf Corporation
Patent Department
1609 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192

EXAMINER

COONEY, JOHN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1711

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/018,064	ARLT ET AL.
	Examiner John m Cooney	Art Unit 1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

When materials recited in a claim are so related as to constitute a proper Markush group, they may be recited in the conventional manner (selected from the group "consisting of" A,B, and C) or alternatively (selected from A, B, or C). See M.P.E.P. 706.03(y).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2, and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dany et al.(3,847,843) and JP-63-091,606, each taken individually.

Dany et al. (see column 5, example 2, as well as, the entire document) and JP-63-091,606 (see the entire abstract), each taken individually, disclose polyurethane foams of the soft/flexible make-up which employ acrylic acid derivatives in amounts which read on those of the claims. The reactive features indicated in claim 6 are held to

be inherently possessed by the teachings of Dany et al. and JP-63-091,606 as such are reactions which would occur natural upon aging of the polyurethanes due to hydrolytic cleavage of the urethane and urea bonds in the presence of the instant compounds.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asako et al.(5,668,187) and Omure et al.(5,561,172), each taken individually.

Asako et al. (see column 2 line 39 – column 3 line 11, as well as, the entire document) and Omure et al. (see column 3 line 24– 50, as well as, the entire document), each taken individually, disclose preparations of polyurethane foams utilizing compounds which overlap significantly with the compounds disclosed by applicants' claims and in amounts inclusive of the amount values claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

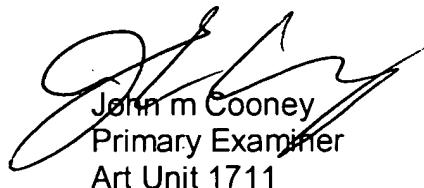
Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asako et al. and Omure et al., each taken individually, as applied to claims 1-4 above, and further in view of Moore et al.(5,494,957).

Asako et al. and Omure et al., each taken individually, differ from the claims in that they are directed towards rigid urethane foams. However, Moore et al. (see column 5 lines 7-39) demonstrates the flexibility in design choice necessary to interchange between flexible and rigid foams within the polyurethane arts. Accordingly, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art to have varied the materials of Asako et al. and Omure et al., each taken individually, in the manner described by Moore et al. for the purpose of achieving softer more flexible foams in order to arrive at the products applicants' claims with the expectation of success in the absence of a showing of new or unexpected results.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John m Cooney whose telephone number is 703-308-2433. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, james seidleck, can be reached on (703) 308-2462. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5665.



John m Cooney
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1711